

NU HOU DALA PAA

NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

VOL. 1 NO. 16

APRIL 24, 1986

HSNA Hawaiian Fish Series Wooden Tokens Woods No. 8 & 9



A continuing Hawaiian fish series of wooden tokens will be sold at the H.S.N.A. Mini and Big Shows. The Mini Show will feature the Squirrel fish, the 8th of the series. Known as the 'Ala' ihi, the fish is red and white in color. The Parrot fish will be the 9th fish in the Hawaiian fish series of wooden tokens. Better known as the Uhu in Hawaii, it will be sold at the Big Show at Queen Kapiolani.

The Uhu is a beautiful fish with all the colors of the rainbow. Both fish live along the shoreline of Hawaii.

Mail orders for both fish will be accepted in November 1986 at 25¢ each per token, plus SASE. Mail to Honolulu Coin Club, P.O. Box 6063, Honolulu, HI 96818.



NATIONAL COIN WEEK

APRIL 20-26 1986

Outstanding Member

BY IRVING KAM

During a break in the merriment at the Annual H.S.N.A. banquet, Honolulu Coin Club took the opportunity to present its Charles A. Matsuda Merit Award. The recipient was Board of Directors member, Marion F. Kendrick, who also serves as Treasurer and Bourse Chairman for the H.S.N.A. Marion is the perfect example of a behind the scene sort of individual and does a fantastic job for both organizations. Besides providing showcases and its transportation for coin shows, he makes sure the Honolulu Coin Club has every amenity during the H.S.N.A. Convention in November. For this and much more, H.C.C. conveys its gratitude by naming him the outstanding club member for 1985.

Congratulations, Kendrick, and THANKS!
Aloha! Pau.

HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
5TH ANNUAL

MINI COIN SHOW

SUSANNAH WESLEY
COMMUNITY CENTER
1117 KAILI STREET
MAY 3, 1986
SATURDAY

9:30 A.M. -
4:00 P.M.

FREE
PARKING

COIN DEALERS
COIN AUCTION
AT 1 P.M.

FREE ADMISSION
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Talking Story

BY IRVING KAM



Some time in 1984, I recall designing an "outstanding member" award for the Honolulu Coin Club through a local manufacturer. It was to be H.C.C.'s 'Akahi, or first of its kind, and would be presented in conjunction with the Hawaii State Numismatic Association's Convention Banquet. The beautiful koa wood composition in the outline of O'ahu was exactly as stipulated and the inscription read: "The Charles A. Matsuda Merit Award. Presented to Charlie Matsuda. This award is presented to express our deep appreciation for the outstanding efforts you have afforded the club." It is most appropriate that we honor such incredible dedication with the 'Akahi, and even more so, by having it carry his name. It is truly a wonder how much he has given and has accomplished for the club over the years, but more about that later.

I first met Charlie at James Kinoshita's original Downtown Coin Gallery location on Smith Street. We were regular bid board participants there and soon became friends. I learned he started collecting in an era where circulation finds and blue Whitman folders were the norm. The penny folder, nickel folder, and so on. He remembers putting together a complete set of Mercury dimes, except for the key date, 1916-D, all from coins of every day commerce. "Lincoln cents from the years 1909-S V.D.B., 1931-S, and 1914-D were also very tough even then."

Up to this point, Charlie had never really "bought" a coin because money was as scarce as those aforementioned Lincolns. Besides, he had other collecting interests with comic books and stamps leading the list. It wasn't until attending college on the mainland did he get exposed to the early obsolete coinage of the U.S. After taking in a baseball game at Wrigley Field, he went junkie hunting in the various shops situated next to the park. In one of the stores which handled antiques, he remembers seeing a showcase filled with an imposing array of numismia. Among the old paper currency, gold and silver coins, and Columbian Exposition memorabilia, a wonderfully odd looking half dollar took his attention. After leaving all of nine dollars with the proprietor, Charlie now owned an 1809 capped bust half which was the first of many, many purchases. He kept patronizing this store until it relocated so he turned to coin shows and the other local shops. His buying habits were along the line of crisp uncirculated large notes and fractionals, early type and copper, or anything else which struck his fancy.

A note of interest is that Charlie worked part time at different jobs and did some freelance work to subsidize his G.I. bill sponsored schooling. Any money left over after that went to collectibles. A familiar predicament indeed.

With his collegiate studies complete, he returned home to settle into a job and resume his favorite pastime. He made his rounds to Dave Martin's bid board in the original Alii Shop, Jack Whitlock's bid board in Waipahu, Tom McAfee's Shop in Waikiki, and the many coin clubs that existed during that period. Charlie especially liked doing business with Kalihi's Pacific Coin Shop operated by Mr. Hashimoto. It was close to home and Hashimoto had become much like a friend, rather than a dealer. He stuck with the type coins like the seated series and says that he never bothered much with the modern coins, unless he was putting together a running set. Those days, type material was available and more importantly, affordable. He also likes large cents, half cents and all the odd denominations, commemoratives, and gold. When his financial

priorities were established, he tried to buy one piece of the yellow stuff a month to put together type sets. Twenty Dollar "Saints" were selling for the grand sum of forty-seven dollars and fifty cents B.U. A few years ago, he told me how an older brother used to scold him for paying forty-seven dollars for a coin with a twenty-dollar face value. I told him to take my "gray sheet" and go visit his brother.

Charlie also has a passion for paper money with an emphasis on the early large notes. Staying mainly with the crisp uncirculateds, "Chief Onepapa", "Jackass" notes, the educational series, national bank notes, silver and gold certificates, including Civil War and the fractionals, all are represented in this collection.

The beautiful engravings aroused his interest and being somewhat of a history buff, so did their historical representations. Because of the 1964 Japan Olympics and through the urging of Mr. Hashimoto, he got involved with Japan coinage. His type set is uncirculated except for the Meiji trade dollar and still has two empty slots to fill. Of this area of collecting, Charlie remarked, "I have a hard time reading the period of time on those things and the same Dragon design can get boring."

Like a lot of other people, he collects Hawaiiana and I have witnessed his impressive accumulation of Hawaii School lunch tokens which included some major toughies. He says at the time, he bought some of the scarcer ones, he may have thought he was paying too much, but until this day, he has never encountered another one for sale. He admits to being an impulsive buyer and has paid four dollars for a superb common date Morgan dollar and then the next day plop down twenty-eight dollars for a 1950-D Jefferson nickel. Or twenty-five plus dollars for a 1964 proof set. All is not pertinent as he is a pure collector and never thinks of his acquisitions as an investment. We once shared a table at an H.S.N.A. show a couple of years back and I can attest to the painful grimaces he made every time he sold a piece, whether it was a V.F. 1963 Roosevelt dime or a V.G. 1956 Jefferson nickel, with damage. The same painful look. That's Charlie! As for his other collecting interests, let's just say they run the gamut. Spoons, baseball cards, early 16mm movie films (mostly westerns), bottles, milk covers, World War II paperbacks, radio premiums, or character pocket knives to name a few. Says Charlie, "Just for fun."

He is currently serving as Honolulu Coin Club's Treasurer and considered by most to be the backbone of the Club. He designs all the medals and tokens, does all the planning for meetings and coin shows, buys all the prizes and supplies, produces all the literature including this newsletter and anything requiring artwork, and everything else between A to Z. He donates so much time, energy, talent, and even money that it's a bonafide miracle he finds time to look for additional material for his collections. When questioned about his too many to list responsibilities, Charlie says that he enjoys himself and gets a kick out of seeing the other club members having a good time. When it ceases to be fun and people stop being receptive to his efforts, then he'll know it's time to slow down.

Charlie holds the position of Medical Illustrator in the Graphic Arts Section of Tripler Army Medical Center where he's been since 1968. He is a graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and his vocation proves to be an invaluable asset to the Club. He relaxes by designing and creating new medals and tokens, researching information, and his latest pastime, hand detailing metal toy soldiers.

Staying idle is not in his nature and he is always busy with one project or another. And it is this tireless activity which we as club members benefit. Thanks, Charlie.

Aloha! Pau.

Letter from the HCC president

Dear Honolulu Coin Club Members:

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank the various coin dealers and friends for their generous contributions to our annual Christmas Party. This was by far the most successful party we have had. It was held at the Daikoku Restaurant and Catering on Saturday, December 14, 1985 and there were over a hundred people in attendance. The party-goers enjoyed many new games, prizes, old friendships, and I am sure had an enjoyable evening.

Special thanks to the following: Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Ibara for their donation of a cookbook per family attending the party, Francis Loo, Ralph Brown, Dick Jamieson, Gary Morris, Dave Martin, Alii Stamp & Coin, Don Medcalf of Hawaiian Island Stamp & Coin, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Whitlock of Aloha Coin Galleries, Bernard Von Nothaus and Telly Presley of the Hawaiian Mint, Craig Watanabe of Captain Cook Coins of Honolulu, James Kinoshita of Downtown Coin Gallery, Al Jeremiah of Honolulu Collectibles for their coin donations.

Also, many thanks to Charles Matsuda, Marion Kendrick, Landis Niau, Wah Kui Young, Crane Saito, Elmer Hamano, Carol Pukini, Susan Hunt and Glen Yokoyama for working during the party. Your generosity was deeply appreciated.

Mahalo Nui Loa.

Gregory B. Hunt

Gregory Hunt, President
Honolulu Coin Club

HONOLULU COIN CLUB STATEHOOD DAY COIN SHOW

ST. ANDREW'S CATHEDRAL
(VON HOLT ROOM NEXT TO WASHINGTON PLACE)

AUGUST 16, 1986 SATURDAY
9:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.



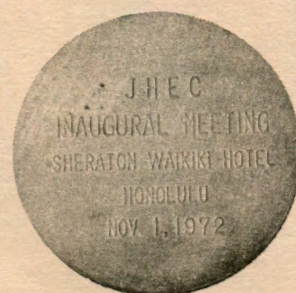
FREE
ADMISSION
COIN
DEALERS
DOOR PRIZES
FREE
PARKING



A TOUCH OF HAWAIIANA

JAPANESE COMMEMORATIVE MEDALS

BY GARY LAU



The medals I will be talking about are four different tokens, all commemorating special events of the Japanese people here in Hawaii.

The first is MD-95. It is a large, steel-plated medal made in 1972 for the Japanese Hawaii Economic Council which held their inaugural meeting in Honolulu at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel.

The second is MD-96. This token celebrates the Centennial of the Japanese Immigration to Hawaii. The first Japanese arrived in Hawaii from Yokohama, Japan in June of 1868 aboard the British ship "SCIOTO".

The third, MD-123 commemorates the 75th anniversary of Kuakini Medical Center. Known in earlier times as the Japanese Charity Hospital, it was founded in 1900 by the Japanese Benevolent Society and remained the Japanese Hospital until 1942 when it became Kuakini Hospital and Home.

The fourth and last, but not least, is MD-504, an especially nice, high relief medal commemorating the Imperial Visit in 1975. The token was made specifically for the first state visit of the Emperor and Empress of Japan to the United States of America.

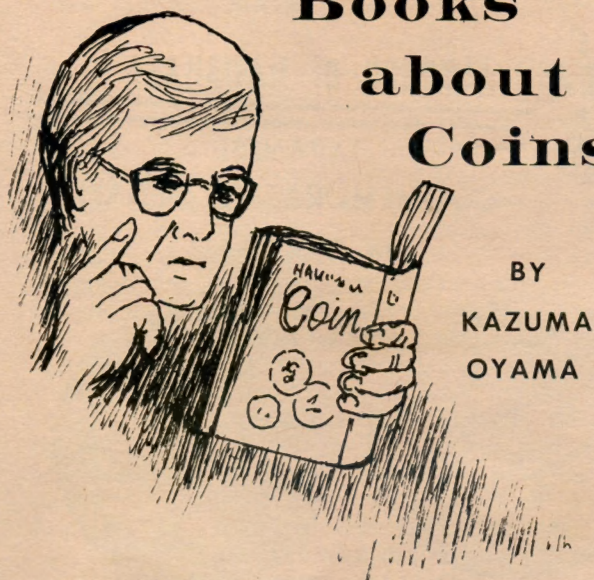
A few medals were made making very special events in Hawaii honoring the Japanese. They are not too easy to come by, but while a few new ones have also been made, they get scarcer as time passes, so grab one if you get a chance and hang on to another piece of Hawaii's most famous "Melting Pot".

HONOLULU COIN CLUB

Meetings

The Honolulu Coin Club meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at Susannah Wesley Community Center at 1117 Kaili St, 7:30 p.m. Gregory Hunt, President.

Books about Coins



BY
KAZUMA
OYAMA

A recent publication from the ANA, 818 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903, for \$4.50 postpaid (although the ANA would appreciate any extra for postage) is "Coinology." It is a compilation of the articles and illustrations by Mort Reed featured regularly in Coin World. It covers every denomination of U.S. coins from the 1973 half cent to the 1984 Olympic gold eagle (\$10). It covers all of the commemorative coins including the Hawaiian Half Dollar, a small "hoard" of which was released last year by the Bank of Hawaii and was auctioned off in January this year. The article in part states that "In June 1928 the Mint struck 10,000 of these coins which later sold for \$2 each. A special surcharge of the regular two-cent stamp was issued for this celebration." In truth, there were not one, but two stamps involved and the stamp was not a "surcharge" but an "overprint." The 2¢ Washington and the 5¢ Theodore Roosevelt stamps of the period were overprinted "Hawaii 1778-1928" to commemorate the sesquicentennial (150th year) of the discovery of the Hawaiian Islands by Captain Cook. Mort Reed states the coin was "struck to commemorate Captain Cook's discovery of the Hawaiian Islands in 1778. The year 1928 is the year of the 200th anniversary of Cook's birth and the 30th anniversary of the annexation of the islands to the U.S."

Another recent publication is by Edward Rochette, who recently retired as Chief Executive Officer of the ANA. He has come out with a book called "The Other Side of the Coin," which seems to cover every facet of numismatics from ancient to modern coins, medals, checks, paper money, tokens, etc. Although it doesn't have anything "Hawaiiana", it provides entertaining and informative reading for all collectors. His section on "Consumer Advocacy" should be read by every collector — the beginners so they become aware of some of the scams that are perpetuated involving numismatics; the old timers as a reminder not to become complacent. In this section Mr. Rochette has an article called "Grading Is Like Buying a Used Car." To me, this article alone is worth the price of this book — \$10.65 including 70¢ postage. It is available from Renaissance House, P.O. Box 177, Frederick, CO 80530.

A FEW MORE AVAILABLE...

The 1st edition
of the book entitled
"Honolulu Coin Club Collectibles Catalog"
is still available.



So, order yours today.

Price \$4.50
Postpaid.

Write to
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96818.

"We have met
the enemy,
and he is us."
— Pogo

*Let's Help Keep
Hawaii Clean!*





COIN QUESTIONS

BY F. LOO

Send your questions to: Coin Collector
P.O. Box 61776177
Honolulu, HI 96822

(Questions will be answered only by publication in this newsletter. All material sent will become the property of the writer of this column.)

Q. Recently, I bought some coins at a public auction in a local hotel. Was I safe in buying coins from such an auction? (J.S. — Waikiki)

An experienced coin collector is often able to buy coins at good prices at auctions. If you are knowledgeable about realistic coin market values and you know how to grade coins, then you probably should have been safe. However, the excitement of an orchestrated auction atmosphere could have caused you to pay too much if you were not an experienced collector. Did you talk to other collectors or coin club members about the coins being auctioned? Did you know the people who were auctioning the coins? There are some very organized groups of people who travel to different cities to auction coins with high printed values and questionable grades. If you bought coins at such an auction, you probably did not get any good buys.

Q. How can I learn to grade coins?

Before anyone can be good in any sport or activity (such as playing a musical instrument), a person must learn the fundamentals, practice, and acquire experience. You must be willing to spend time and effort. First, select one series of coins, such as Walking Liberty half dollars. Then try to inspect as many of that type of coin that you can, at coin club meetings, coin shows, and stores. Then compare how different collectors and dealers grade the coins. Keep looking at as many coins of your chosen type until you reach a point where you can predict how other collectors and dealers will grade them. Then select another series, and continue the same process, until you feel comfortable with grading all series you're interested in. The main point is for you to make mental comparisons among all the coins you look at.

Q. What are my coins worth?

Take your coins to a coin club meeting and ask a few coin collectors. Your coins will be worth more to a person who collects them.

Coming Soon!

HCC TRIVIA



Nothing to do in your spare time?

Join a COIN CLUB.

Here's a chance to meet
people and enjoy a new
interesting hobby.



HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
23rd ANNUAL

COIN SHOW

QUEEN KAPIOLANI HOTEL

HOURS:

THURSDAY - NOV 6TH 12 NOON - 8 PM

FRIDAY - SATURDAY NOV 7TH - 8TH
11 AM - 8 PM

SUNDAY - NOV 9TH 10 AM - 4 PM

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